

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 19560 01 OF 02 191959Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-10 IO-13 L-03  
NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SS-15  
SP-02 DOE-15 INT-05 HUD-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 EA-10  
FRB-03 NEA-11 OPIC-03 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01  
OMB-01 /162 W

-----127921 192037Z /63

P R 191941Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3519  
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 19560

USOECD

FOR OES/EN, EUR/RPE, PASS HUD INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SENV, OECD  
SUBJ: OECD URBAN INITIATIVE: COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 8

REFS: (A) C(78)50 AND C (78)101; (B) PARIS 17578;  
(C) STATE 141950

1. SUMMARY: LENGTHY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF US URBAN INITIATIVE DID NOT PRODUCE RESULT BECAUSE OF FRENCH OPPOSITION, SUPPORTED BY GREECE, TO CREATION OF ANY NEW OECD BODIES ON GROUNDS OF PROCEDURAL PRINCIPLE. OTHER COUNTRIES SUPPORTED U.S. INITIATIVE AND SECRETARIAT PAPER REF (A) WITH A FEW MINOR EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN. STRONG SUPPORT FROM U.K., NORWAY, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NETHERLANDS, JAPAN, GERMANY, BELGIUM, SWEDEN, DENMARK, SPAIN, AND AUSTRIA. SEC GEN CONCLUDED THIS AGENDA ITEM  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 19560 01 OF 02 191959Z

IS TO BE TAKEN UP AGAIN BY COUNCIL SOON AFTER MINISTERIAL MEETING. THE SECRETARY HAS SINCE RAISED THE MATTER WITH FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD WHO SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. REP OPENED DISCUSSION WITH BRIEF REMARKS CITING (1) COMPLEXITY AND BREADTH OF URBAN PROBLEMS,

(2) DESIRABILITY OF SHARING EXPERIENCE, AND (3) NEED FOR MECHANISM OF AD HOC GROUP TO DEFINE ISSUES AND WORK PROGRAM. DEPUTY SEC GEN ELDIN FOLLOWED WITH DESCRIPTION OF OECD EXPERIENCE AND RANGE OF CURRENT WORK INCLUDING PUBLIC SERVICES, CITY MANAGEMENT, TRANSPORTATION, POLLUTION, NOISE, USE OF DATA PROCESSING, ETC. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WORK, ALTHOUGH USEFUL AND OF GOOD QUALITY, IS FRAGMENTED AND LACKS COHESION IN ECONOMIC POLICY SENSE THEREFORE IS OF LIMITED USEFULNESS TO GOVERNMENT DECISION MAKERS. HE EXPLAINED PROPOSED TWO-STAGE PROCEDURE OF USING AD HOC GROUP TO RECOMMEND SUBSTANCE, STRUCTURE AND FUNDING OF NEW PROGRAM, TO BE FOLLOWED BY IMPLEMENTATION BY COUNCIL DECISION IN 1979. THE EXISTING URBAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP SHOULD NOT BE ENTRUSTED WITH THIS MANDATE SINCE AN OECD WIDE VIEWPOINT IS NEEDED TO DO THE JOB. THE AD HOC GROUP WILL COEXIST WITH THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP WITHOUT ANY CONFLICT. THERE WOULD BE NO BUDGETARY PROBLEM SINCE AD HOC GROUP WILL USE FUNDS ALREADY SET ASIDE FOR 1978. THE SECRETARY GENERAL FULLY AGREES WITH THIS APPROACH AS RECOMMENDED BY U.S., ACCORDING TO ELDIN.

3. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION, STRONG AND UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT WAS EXPRESSED BY U.K., NORWAY, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NETHERLANDS, JAPAN, GERMANY, BELGIUM, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 19560 01 OF 02 191959Z

SWEDEN, DENMARK, SPAIN AND AUSTRIA. FINLAND APPROVED AD REFERENDUM. ITALY PREFERRED BROADENING MANDATE OF URBAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP BUT ACCEPTED MAJORITY OPINION. TURKEY AGREED WITH SUBSTANCE BUT ASKED WHY JOB COULD NOT BE DONE IN ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND SOUGHT TO LINK PROPOSAL TO SET UP AD HOC URBAN GROUP WITH ANOTHER PROPOSAL TO SET UP AD HOC GROUP ON MIGRATION. BELGIUM AND DENMARK QUESTIONED THE SECRETARIAT'S LIMITATION OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH COUNTRY, CLAIMING THAT THE SUBJECT MATTER WAS TOO BROAD FOR ONE INDIVIDUAL TO COVER, CITING TOWN PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT, FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT AS NECESSARY ELEMENTS.

4. MAJOR PROBLEM HOWEVER WAS RAISED BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR BOEGNER WHO STATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HAD CONSIDERED PROPOSAL WITH CARE AND FOUND IT USEFUL AND INTERESTING AS AN APPROACH TO A MAJOR PROBLEM. BUT THEY DIFFERED ON PROCEDURE, OPPOSING PROLIFERATION OF SPECIAL AD HOC GROUPS THAT WEAKENED RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXISTING BODIES OF THE ORGANIZATION. HE SUGGESTED INSTEAD BROADENING MANDATE OF EXISTING URBAN ENVIRONMENT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 19560 02 OF 02 192005Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-10 IO-13 L-03  
NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SS-15  
SP-02 DOE-15 INT-05 CEA-01 EA-10 FRB-03 NEA-11  
OPIC-03 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 HUD-01 AGR-05  
/162 W  
-----127952 192040Z /63

P R 191941Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3520  
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 19560

USOECD

GROUP WHICH HE SAID IS COMPETENT TO DO THE JOB AND  
BRING IN ADDITIONAL EXPERTS AS NEEDED. FRANCE HE  
SAID DOES NOT AGREE WITH ELDIN'S PRIOR COMMENT THAT  
AN EXISTING GROUP WOULD TEND TO BE BIASED AND  
HAVE A NARROW VIEWPOINT. GREEK PERM DEL CHIMED IN TO  
SAY THAT NEW ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE WERE UNNECESSARY  
WHEN EXISTING ORGANIZATION WAS AVAILABLE. MOREOVER,  
ONE REPRESENTATIVE PER COUNTRY WAS UNREALISTIC, IN  
HIS VIEW, BECAUSE OF BREADTH OF URBAN PROBLEMS.  
DENMARK SUGGESTED THAT AD HOC GROUP MEET BACK TO BACK  
WITH URBAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP IN ORDER TO SAVE TIME  
AND TRAVEL OF PARTICIPANTS.

5. DCM INTERVENED TO EXPLAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE  
DEFINITIONAL AND PLANNING JOB OF THE AD HOC GROUP  
AND THE SUBSTANTIVE WORK TO FOLLOW, SINCE THERE  
SEEMED TO BE SOME CONFUSION REFLECTED IN REMARKS OF  
DELEGATES AS TO WHAT AD HOC GROUP WOULD ACTUALLY DO.  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 19560 02 OF 02 192005Z

6. ELDIN THEN RESPONDED TO EXORESSIONS OF CONCERN:

(A) THERE ARE PERHAPS TOO MANY AD HOC GROUPS BUT THIS ONE IS A NECESSARY EXCEPTION, WILL EXIST FOR ONE YEAR AND WILL FILL A SPECIAL NEED.

(B) WE CANNOT ASK EXISTING GROUP TO DO THIS WORK IN ADDITION TO ITS REGULAR FUNCTION.

(C) IT WOULD BE TOO CUMBERSOME TO USE THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP WHICH REPORTS THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO THE COUNCIL.

(D) WE CANNOT ASK THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO ADOOT A BROADER VIEWPOINT THAN ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITY AND WE ALL AGREE THAT URBAN PROBLEMS ARE BIGGER THAN ENVIRONMENT ISSUES.

(E) THE PROPOSAL CONSTITUTES NO HAZARD TO THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND URBAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP AND IN FACT COULD RESULT IN A RECOMMENDATION FOR A LARGER ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ROLE IN URBAN PROBLEMS.

7. FRANCE AND GREECE MAINTAINED THEIR POSITIONS. THE SEC GEN SUSPENDED THE DISCUSSION AND SUGGESTED RECONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER AT A FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING, SOON AFTER THE MINISTERIAL.

8. COMMENT: DEBATE WAS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON PROCEDURAL ISSUE WITH LITTLE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT. NO ONE APPARENTLY OPPOSES CENTRAL IDEA OF URBAN INITIATIVE. FRENCH OPPOSITION IS BASED ON POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDING OF PURPOSE OF GROUP AND PERSONAL POSITION OF FRENCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 19560 02 OF 02 192005Z

AMBASSADOR. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD REPORT THAT THERE MAY BE SOME BUREAUCRATIC CONFLICT IN FRENCH GOVERNMENT. THE SECRETARIAT IS CURRENTLY EXPLORING WAYS OF ENDING THE IMPASSE. DURING A BILATERAL DISCUSSION ON THE OCCASION OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING THE SECRETARY RAISED THE MATTER WITH THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER WHO SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER. SALZMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETINGS, URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PARIS19560  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780255-0786  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PARIS USOECD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780644/aaaabmbu.tel  
**Line Count:** 220  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 91f34086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 PARIS 17578, 78 STATE 141950  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2299008  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OECD URBAN INITIATIVE: COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 8  
**TAGS:** SENV, OECD  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/91f34086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014